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## BRIEF MENTION

Skýrsla um hinn Almenna Mentaskóla í Reykjavík, Skólaárið 1912-1913. Reykjavík 1913.

Árbók Háskóla Íslands fyrir Háskólaárið 1912-1913. Fylgirit: Yfirlit yfir Sögu Sullaveikinnar á Íslandi eftir Guðmund Magnússon. Reykjavík 1913: Prentsmiðjan Gutenberg.

These are the last yearbooks of the most noteworthy of the educational institution of Iceland. The former, the Latin School, or *Gymnasium*, is centuries old, the oldest school in Iceland, in fact; the latter, the University of Iceland, was founded in 1911 and is just publishing its second yearbook. Official cognizance is given in the Latin School Yearbook, to the loss by death of its aged Principal, Steingrímur Thorsteinsson, and to the appointment of Mr. G. T. Zoëga to succeed him. The University Yearbook, in its large page and fine type, is a handsome-looking volume. And it seems to have taken over the task (formerly attributed to the Catalog of the other school) of printing learned essays as supplements, after the manner of the German *Schul-Programme*. Last year it was the unpublished *Stúfssaga* that was thus brought before the public, this year it is a very interesting medical report, by Dr. Guðmund Magnússon, of the Faculty of the University Medical School, on a disease that is more common in Iceland than anywhere else, namely: the *Hydatid*, or Intestinal Worm (*Echinococcus disease*). The disease consists of cysts forming in the brain, liver, lungs and kidneys, owing to the work of certain immature forms of tapeworms—in particular *taenia echinococcus*—which become lodged in the bodies of persons who are much in the company of dogs, or are accustomed to handling dogs affectionately. This explains why the disease is so common in Iceland, for in no country is the dog so well-treated or so affectionately regarded as there. Dr. Magnússon's discussion of his subject is very complete; it begins with a historical consideration and ends with practical suggestions. Like most modern specialists in this field, he is in favor of the surgical treatment, to support which he adduces much material. His statistics are encouraging in that they show a pronounced decline in the prevalence of the disease in Iceland in recent years.

Rune Zetterlund—*Bibliografiska Anteckningar om August Strindberg*. Stockholm—Bonnier 1913. Pris 12 kr.

Gustav Uddgren—*Boken om Strindberg; början till en Biografi*. Göteborg—Åhlen & Åkerlund 1909. 2.75 kr.

Gustav Uddgren—*Andra Boken om Strindberg*. Göteborg—Åhlen & Åkerlund 1912. 1 kr.

Hermann Esswein—*August Strindberg im Lichte seines Lebens und seiner Werke*. München und Leipzig, Georg Müller 1909. Zweite Auflage, mit 27 Bildbeilagen. 5 marks.

Hermann Esswein—*August Strindberg—Auktoriserad Öfversättning af Erik Thyselius*. Stockholm—Björck & Börjesson 1909. 4 kr.

Zetterlund's Strindberg Bibliography, the first of the above works, is absolutely indispensable to all persons intending to make a serious and scholarly study of the subject. As the book is printed in an edition of 500 copies only it is important to add it at once to the great libraries, as it is in them that one would most look for such a work. A sense of Strindberg's truly titanic productiveness may be gained by merely turning the leaves of the book, and even the specialist will note many works, of the very existence of which he has hitherto been in ignorance.

The two books by Uddgren are full of interesting biographical matter, perhaps a little too gossipy and anecdotal, but much of it important. Of the two, the latter is much more disconnected than the former, and distinctly less valuable. To my mind the material they furnish is the only material on Strindberg's life that does not come directly out of his autobiographical writings, and that does recommend them to such persons as are tired of seeing Strindberg's confessions served up over and over again as "original research."

Esswein's book is the only real, critical treatment, on a large scale, that Strindberg has as yet received. Here he is regarded not as a subject for anecdote or biography merely, but as a force requiring analysis. Esswein's sympathies seem to be with him, going even so far as to support Strindberg in many of his strictures on women. Individual phases of the man's mental life are treated in an active, controversial manner, and such chapters as: "Strindberg and History," "Strindberg and the Natural Sciences," "Strindberg and Women," are worthy of profound study. Thyselius' Swedish translation is faithful and capable, and it is unfortunate that the magnificent half-tones of the German edition have not been printed with his rendering.

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